Mr. Chairman,

I would like to begin my delegation’s intervention on peaceful uses of nuclear energy (PUNE) by commending the activities and invaluable contributions that have been performed by the IAEA in serving as a modality for the transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, as the recognized authority supporting inter-governmental efforts to strengthen nuclear safety and as an indispensable instrument in moving forward the international nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament agenda. In this context, my delegation appreciates the IAEA’s Nuclear Technology Review 2002 which presents a fair picture of nuclear technology. The new look at nuclear technology from the point of view of innovation is a welcome approach that helps broaden the vision of planners and decision-makers. Meanwhile, we are hopeful that the Agency’s role will be further strengthened in the future for the benefit of all States Parties to the NPT, in particular developing countries.

My delegation wishes to emphasize the importance of promoting a framework of confidence and cooperation within which the peaceful uses of nuclear energy can take place, which is one of the fundamental pillars of the NPT. Furthermore, both the 1995 and 2000 Review exercises emphatically reaffirmed the validity of Article IV and the inalienable right of all states parties to unimpeded and non-discriminatory transfer of nuclear technology and materials to the developing countries as they play an important role in catering to the requirements of national development, meeting basic human needs such as in agriculture, advancing life sciences and health, and taking benefit from the physical sciences, including energy.

This is essential even for countries that are endowed with abundant natural resources - both current and potential. Energy has played, and will continue to play, a principal role in promoting economic and industrial growth as well as in improving human well-being. However, the substantial increase in global energy consumption, which is foreseen in the coming decades, will be driven principally by the developing world, especially in Asia, and these can not be met through resources which are finite. Hence, nuclear energy remains a strong option which offers a sustainable energy future.

Against this backdrop, while recognizing that some energy policy reviews have been more open in their outlook, we still note with regret that undue restrictions on export to developing countries - of equipment, materials and technology for peaceful purposes - have continued to persist. It bears reiteration that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements. Along this line, non-proliferation control arrangements should be open and transparent and should not impose restrictions on access to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
This calls for enhanced technical cooperation to facilitate sustainable development in the developing countries. Transfer of nuclear science and technology to the developing countries through cooperative programs - especially in areas such as food and agriculture, fighting disease, managing water resources and ensuring environmental protection - continues to be a principal objective of the IAEA. Thus, the Agency has an important role to play in supplementing the scientific and technological capacities of Member States and as a catalyst for socio-economic progress.

Acknowledging the importance of nuclear technology for developing countries, particularly in helping them to address the problems they are facing and to increase their quality of life, all measures to achieve the fair balance between verification and promotional activities of the Agency should be widely supported.

Towards these objectives, Indonesia supports the role of the IAEA in assisting States Parties to formulate international cooperative projects and technical cooperation programmes within the framework of PUNE based on each country's choices and decisions and the principle of sustainable development. In this regard, technical cooperation programmes should be designed in response to the real needs of States, especially developing countries, and conducted in pursuit of specific results in line with the objectives of promoting socio-economic development in the countries concerned.

As I already noted, the Agency, within limited resources, has made a constructive contribution to the needs and interests of developing nations. Innovative projects under its auspices are underway in many of these countries and will help identify promising technologies. The Agency has an important role to play in assisting the developing countries to improve their scientific and technological capabilities. These call for assured access to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

In the context of comprehensive safeguards, my delegation is of the view that the Agency's safeguards are critical components of the non-proliferation regime and create an environment conducive to nuclear disarmament. To this effect, Indonesia has concluded a safeguards agreement pursuant to the provisions of Article IV paragraph 4 of the Treaty, as well as "the additional protocol" approved by its Board of Governors in May 1997, which entered into force on 29 September 1999. We will support the Agency's continuing efforts to strengthen the comprehensive safeguards system and to ensure the non-diversion of declared nuclear materials and the absence of undeclared nuclear materials and activities. In this regard, in the Agency's major programme on Nuclear Safety, stress should also be given not only on good safety standards and technologies, but also on good regulatory practices as well as on well-qualified personnel. For this purpose, sufficient funding should be channeled for the provision of safety review services, guidance and support for the application of standards, and adequate training for regulators and operators.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.